

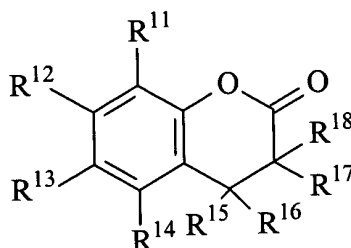
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition comprising:

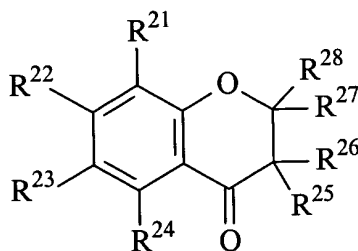
(a) (a-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(a-2) at least one compound selected from

a compound of formula (I-1):



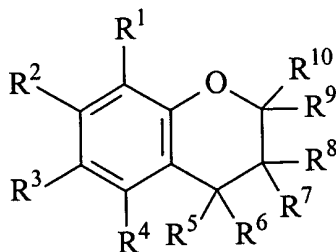
or a compound of formula (I-2):



wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , and R^{28} are the same or different and independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a benzyloxy group, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an acyloxy group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, or a benzyloxycarbonyl group;

(b) (b-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(b-2) a compound of formula (II):



wherein R¹, R² and R⁴ independently represent a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group,

R³ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a hydroxy group, or an acetyl group,

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, and R⁸ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or a phenyl group which may be substituted with an alkyl group, and

R⁹ and R¹⁰ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkenyl group; or

(c) (c-1) a styrene-butadiene copolymer, and

(c-2) a benzoin compound; and

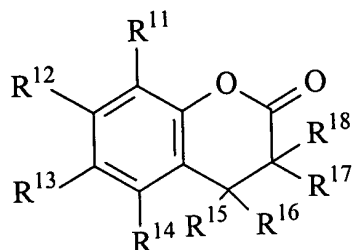
wherein the polybutadiene type polymer in (b) is polybutadiene polymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, or styrene-butadiene block copolymer.

2. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, which composition comprises

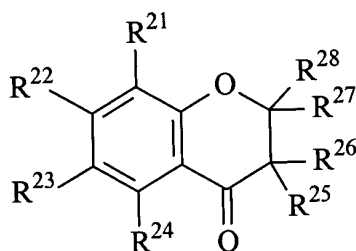
(a-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(a-2) at least one compound selected from

a compound of formula (I-1):



or a compound of formula (I-2):

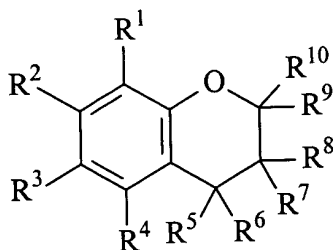


wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , and R^{28} are the same or different and independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a benzyloxy group, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an acyloxy group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, or a benzyloxycarbonyl group.

3. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, which comprises

(b-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(b-2) a compound of formula (II):



wherein R¹, R² and R⁴ independently represent a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group,

R³ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a hydroxy group, or an acetyl group,

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, and R⁸ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or a phenyl group which may be substituted with an alkyl group, and

R⁹ and R¹⁰ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkenyl group.

4. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, which composition comprises

(c-1) a styrene-butadiene copolymer, and

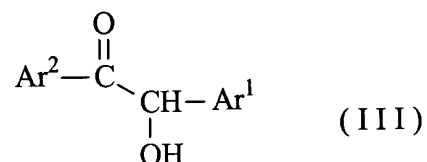
(c-2) a benzoin compound.

5. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the polybutadiene type polymer in (a) ~~and (b)~~ is polybutadiene polymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene

copolymer, styrene-butadiene block copolymer or high-impact polystyrene.

6. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 5, wherein the polybutadiene type polymer in (a) and ~~(b)~~ is polybutadiene polymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, or styrene-butadiene block copolymer.

7. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1 or 4, wherein the benzoin compound is a compound of formula (III):



wherein Ar¹ and Ar² independently represent a phenyl group, which may be substituted with at least one group selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkoxyalkyl group, an aryl group, an arylalkyl group, an aryloxy group, an alkylcarbonyloxy group, an alkylsulfonyloxy group, an arylcarbonyloxy group, and a group of formula: -COOQ, wherein Q represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, and two adjacent substituent groups on the phenyl group

together with the carbon atoms to which they are bonded may form a benzene ring or rings.

8. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1 or 4, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 independently represent a phenyl group, which may be substituted with an alkyl group, an alkoxy group or an alkoxyalkyl group.

9. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8, ~~wherein~~ which comprises an effective amount for preventing formulation of gelled product of the compound of formula as defined in (a-2), (b-2) or (c-2) ~~is~~ respectively ~~present~~ in the polybutadiene composition (a), (b) or (c).

10. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 2, 5 or 6, wherein an amount of at least one compound selected from the compound of formula ~~(I)~~ (I-2) or (I-2) is 0.001 part by weight or more per 100 parts by weight of the polybutadiene type polymer.

11. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 3, 5, or 6, wherein an amount of the compound of formula (II) is 0.001 part by weight or more per 100

parts by weight of the polybutadiene type polymer

12. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 4, 7 or 8, wherein an amount of the benzoin compound is 0.01 part by weight or more per 100 parts by weight of the styrene-butadiene ~~polymer~~ copolymer.

13. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 4, 7, 8 or 12, wherein the benzoin compound is benzoin.

14. (Previously Presented) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, 4, 7, 8, 12, or 13, wherein the styrene-butadiene copolymer is a styrene-butadiene block copolymer.

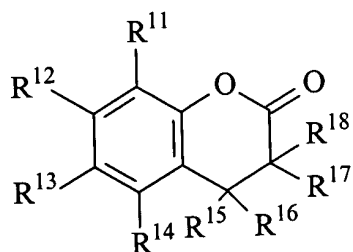
15. (Previously Presented) An article molded from the composition of any one of claims 1 to 14.

16. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a polybutadiene composition, which comprises: i) blending

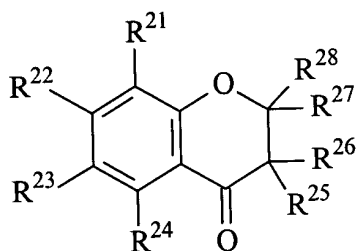
(a) (a-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(a-2) at least one compound selected from

a compound of formula (I-1):



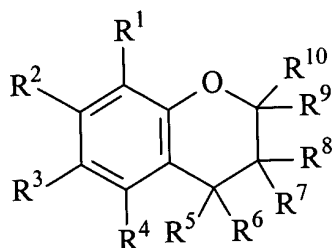
or a compound of formula (I-2):



wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , and R^{28} are the same or different and independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a benzyloxy group, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an acyloxy group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, or a benzyloxycarbonyl group;

(b) (b-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(b-2) a compound of formula (II):



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently represent a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group,

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a hydroxy group, or an acetyl group,

R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or a phenyl group which may be substituted with an alkyl group, and

R^9 and R^{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkenyl group; or

(c) (c-1) a styrene-butadiene copolymer, and

(c-2) a benzoin compound;

ii) melting the blended composition; and

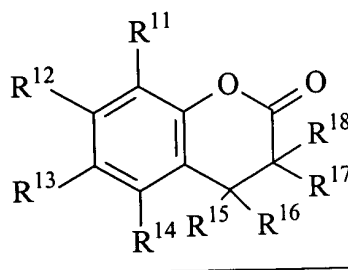
iii) extruding the melted composition.

17. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a molded article, which comprises ~~metling~~ melting ~~the~~ a polybutadiene composition ~~as defined in claim 1~~ comprising:

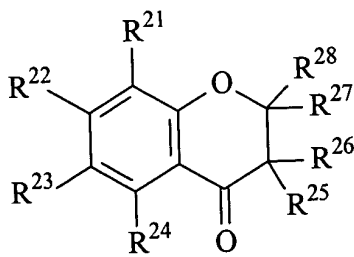
(a) (a-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(a-2) at least one compound selected from

a compound of formula (I-1):



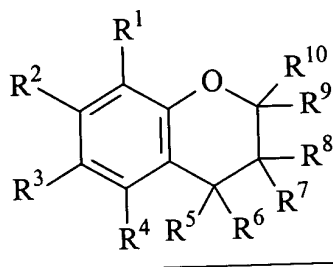
or a compound of formula (I-2):



wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , and R^{28} are the same or different and independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a benzyloxy group, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an acyloxy group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, or a benzyloxycarbonyl group;

(b) (b-1) a polybutadiene type polymer, and

(b-2) a compound of formula (II):



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently represent a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group,

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, a hydroxy group, or an acetyl group,

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, and R⁸ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or a phenyl group which may be substituted with an alkyl group, and

R⁹ and R¹⁰ independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkenyl group; or

(c) (c-1) a styrene-butadiene copolymer, and

(c-2) a benzoin compound, and

subjecting the melted composition to injection molding, extruding, or blow molding.